

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 12th April 2020

Silent Key

It is with great sadness that we must announce the passing of Joe Clarke EI9HO from Killarney, Co Kerry. Joe served in the Army at the Curragh in his early years, before moving to England where he worked in the Postal service. Years later he returned to Killarney and became an active member of the Kerry Amateur Radio Group.

Joe Ei9HO and John Ei9JO together were affectionately known as the "HO-JO gang" on club outings. Joe was active on HF up until very recently, and was a regular caller to the CT1JRO Net on 14.331 MHz twice weekly. Joe will be sadly missed by his fellow club members at KARG.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his daughter Sandra, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and his many friends in Amateur Radio. May he rest in peace.

Contest Results

The results of the IRTS 80 metres Evening Counties Contest held on 24th March have now been published, see the Contest Results page www.irts.ie/results for details. The contest was well supported, 51 logs were submitted, recording QSOs from 25 EI and GI counties as well as 12 overseas entities. 60 EI and GI stations were active, mostly on SSB, with CW accounting for just 5% of QSOs. As previously reported, an additional 80 metres Evening Counties Contest on 28th April has been added to the calendar. www.irts.ie/contests has the revised Contest Calendar for 2020

Amateur Station Licence Exam

Reminder: Due to the current public health situation, and following consultation with ComReg, the Amateur Station Licence Exam due to be held on 7th May 2020 has been postponed. It will be re-scheduled as soon as possible, and a new closing date for applications to sit the exam will then be published.

Echo Ireland

The Editor of Echo Ireland would appreciate if you could send pictures of yourselves

operating in your shack while you are bearing up during self-isolation. Stay safe and keep the ether warmed up. Don't forget to keep articles coming as we are always in need of good quality materials for our magazine

IRTS QSL Buro

Following the closure of QSL Buro in a number of countries impacted by Covid 19 it is appropriate to clarify the current situation in Ireland. Any member who wishes to send QSL cards should continue to send them to Dave EI6AL who will process them as normal. However, there will be a significant delay in shipping packages to other countries as our post offices are under pressure with restricted access and more important items must take priority. Following clarification from An Post it is confirmed that incoming cards to the IRTS PO Box from other countries will be held in the sorting office until such time as current restrictions are relaxed. This will result in significant delays receiving your cards. Pat EI2HX and Dave EI6AL wish you all well and look forward to resuming normal service when the emergency is over.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

From Tuesday the 14th of April 2020 the weekly IRTS news bulletin on Tuesday evenings transmitted by the club will be brought forward from 9:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. local time. We look forward to your continued support of the service each week at the new time of 8:00 p.m.

Considering the implications of the Covid-19 virus and the general age group of the club all meetings of the club will cease until further notice. For anyone that wishes to find out more about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and their activities you can drop them an email to "southeasternarg /at gmail /dot/ com" or please feel free to go along to any of their meetings. You can check out their website www.searg.ie and you can also join them on Facebook and follow them on Twitter.

EI2PAR club meetings

Due to concern for the health of elderly members, Phoenix Amateur Radio Club meetings on Thursday in Coolmine are suspended until further notice.

North Dublin Radio Club EI0NDR

Due to concern for the health of all club members. The weekly Saturday night NDR club meetings are suspended until further notice. The club has decided to bring back the weekly NDR net on Saturday nights at 8pm on 145.575 Mhz - That is the VHF Simplex Channel S23 , now known as Channel V46. All are welcome to pick up the microphone and call in.

South Dublin Radio Club

As a precaution for club members due to Covit 19 South Dublin Radio Club has decided to temporarily close down club nights. It was also decided to have a SDR radio net instead on 7.123 MHz +/- QRM every Tuesday night from 8pm-10pm. The clubs usual VHF net 144.330 usb will continue every night except on Tuesdays. All club members & friends should keep in touch on their Ham Radio, not everyone has this facilities. So make use of your radio.

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio news editor, Mark EI6HPB on 086 355 2370.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin. If you currently receive a copy of the IRTS Radio News Bulletin by email as a news reader and wish to modify your address, please inform the editor in order to have it changed on the news readers mailing list.

[C]